



PROJECTS

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- 2020**
- Election Day** *group exhibition of electoral art* (Unabomber '96 Presidential write-in Campaign) curated by Enar de Dios Rodriguez, das weisse haus, Vienna, Austria
- Corona Calendar [Nature Is On Our Side]** *photographs/text* Ongoing project documenting duration of pandemic through photographs of landscape as clock, paired with covid statistics, March 23, 2020 through ???
- The Days of Our Lives [An Investigation of the Obvious]** *audio public installation*, Shuffling-looped playlist of excerpts from interviews with free wage-laborers concerning how they spent their 24-hour daily ration of time pre-COVID19 on a typical working day and the experience of selling labor/time/life. Capital-influenced. Le Petit Versailles Garden, New York City.
- 2019**
- Through the Intimacy of My Own Mistakes** *audio-journal movie, 65 min*; my experience of culture shock immersed in social life of Djoulafondo, Mali, West Africa. Le Petit Versailles, New York City.
- 2018**
- What I Learned In Djoulafondo [20 moviettes]** *movie, 78 min*: Portrait of a self-sufficient, agricultural village in Mali, West Africa, a mirror-world where all my home culture's values were reversed. Le Petit Versailles, New York City; with a related event, **As A Human I Must Start From Scratch**, a program of my short videos over long time span.
- 2017**
- Inconceivable Suffering** *Audio/interviews, 60 min*: a salvage ethnography presentation in sound to identify, name and define forms of sociotechnologically-imposed suffering of which we are not yet consciously aware. Le Petit Versailles, New York City.
- 2016**
- I Don't Know What I'm Doing** *Non-fiction movie, 104 min*: an experiment in unintentional narrative
- 2015**
- Collapse Dialogue** *Face-to-face dialogue experiment* applying David Bohms' application of individual insight meditation to a collective thought process, to generate awareness of incoherence, repression, conditioning, and assumptions; Related visual art and performance in *Don't Look Away*, MOBIUS Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- Diary of Complexity** *Verite play* comprised entirely of actual office dialogue I transcribed, over the course of one year, when automated/cloud-based systems failed to function within the busy janitorial service office where I work as part-time bookkeeper. At 500 pages performance time would approximate an 8 hour workday.
- What is Big Data?** *Examination of algorithmic governance* as exemplified by Massachusetts Department of Revenue's unpublicized collection of citizen data in a vast data warehouse, and its use of predictive algorithms to flag selected citizens for an identity quiz administered by a global commercial data surveillance corporation
- iPhone Gaze** *Booklet of ink drawings*: 180 portraits observing people in public engaging with their iPhones
- ACTIVISTS (what the hell do we do?)** *Booklet, 30-min video installation*: Brickbottom Gallery, Somerville, MA; published on *The Dark Mountain Project* blog
- The Art of Polypharmacy** *Performance and brochure* in critique of the biomedical model of mental illness and prescribed treatment with pharmaceutical "cocktails," *Mad In America International Film Festival*, Arlington, MA
- I Am My Own Case Study** *Performance and brochure* in conjunction with Marni Kotak's *Mad Ms.* exhibition and durational performance weaning herself off psychiatric meds, Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn, NYC
- 2014**
- Mom Reflections (I must change my life)** *Meditation performance*: for 6 weeks following my mother's death, I reflected upon her life and death for 1-3 hours daily, writing whatever came to mind, and discussed this experience on the final day of reflection at *Experiments and Disorders*, Dixon Place, NYC
- Mom Movies** *Movie, 79 min*: 5 diary-style chapters spanning 7 years, on my mother's spirit as she faced losses, aging, mortality. Produced *Mom Movies* event after her death, vscreening Ilene Segalov's *Mom Tapes* (1970s), with music and reading performances on the death of parents.
- Bad Sex (*not as in naughty)** *Movie, 126 min*: 24 interviews with research volunteers who met this criterion: "Have you had non-violent sexual experiences that were uncomfortable, alienating or tedious and which left you with a sense of despondency, futility, shame, disgust or general personal failure?" Screenings at Harvard Film Archive video room and Out of the Blue Gallery in Cambridge.

LYDIA ECCLES participant-observer/test human

- 2013** **COLLAPSE INTERVIEWS: A Gathering of People With Nothing In Common** *Non-fiction movie, 127 min:* An inquiry: "What is the human experience of living against a backdrop of evolving warnings of impending catastrophe?" Interviews with non-Activist research volunteers spanned their earliest experience of warnings, how they evolved to their perception of threats now, to speculations as to "*Where are we going?*" Screenings at Harvard Film Archive video room, Mobius and Brickbottom Galleries in Boston area; Senator Theater, Baltimore, MD and at Gabfest, Machias, Maine.
- COLLAPSE INTERVIEWS: A Gathering of People With Nothing In Common** *Graphic/installation:* Video stills, texts with **A History of Warnings** (a participatory timeline from 1940 to 2020 of techno-scientific progress and its unintended consequences) a public study desk, reading materials and timeline cards. *Weathering Arts*, 119 Gallery, Lowell, MA
- 2007-2012** **ART HIATUS:** Major depression with severe psychiatric drug side effects; over these six years, I shot *Mom Movies*, studied origins of the market system; spent a season working and video-documenting at a pre-industrial farm in Vermont; participated in *Occupy Boston* village for 5 months, sewing 5 large-scale applique fabric banners, designing posters and fire prevention signs, and producing financial reports for the general assembly.
- 2006** **Oh Chinatown** *Non-fiction movie, 120 min:* Ode to Chinatown on the brink of destruction: imagery, shot over a 6 year period, of a neighborhood of Chinese immigrants, artists and sex workers under assault by real estate speculators demolishing neighborhood structures to erect vast luxury condo towers.
- 2005** **Nick Breaks In** *Movie, 12 min:* Documentary of artist Nick Vargelis on his final (illicit) balcony-to-basement exploration of the boarded-up, half-demolished Gaiety burlesque theater; he scavenges obsolete light fixtures and photographs throughout one last time before it is smashed to rubble to make way for a luxury condo tower.
- Spiritual Liquidation** *Performance:* When an effort to wean off psych meds by meditation spiritual practice crashed in failure, I got a revelation image tattooed on me and held a public book sale of all my spiritual books, followed by a picnic and public bookburning of remainders (overlooked by Fire Department), Cambridge, MA.
- So What** *Performance video, 7 min:* Submerged in a trashcan filled with water, I am caressed by live eels
- 2000-2004** **Oni Gallery:** Co-founded and directed 6,000 s.f. independent, artist-run experimental art space in Chinatown, Boston, with gallery, theater/film space, reading room, and 8 live-in artist studios, and an emphasis on warm hospitality; Staged gallery shows, film screenings, readings, concerts and performance events; *Best Alternative Gallery* award from Boston's weekly arts newspaper. (Spaced closed by city due to landlord code violations.)
- 2004** **Artistary (Is it practical to do no harm?)** An effort to obtain inner city territory for the building of a permanent, embedded artist community based upon the economic, political and social model of a monastery--"in the world, but not of it"; only a 'paper project' because attempts to purchase of 3 acres in Roxbury fell through.
- Rat Love** *Performance video, 6 min:* On the playful intimacy of rats; Independent discovery of rat laughter.
- 2003** **The Tang of Decay** *Video, 4 min:* Jubilant maggots, writhing to a Chopin nocturne, consume my deceased rat
- Money Meditation** *Performance video, 17 min:* I withdraw a one-hundred dollar bill from the bank, eat it, shit it out, wash it, dry it, and redeposit it in the bank
- Pigeon Meditation or, Death Rehearsal** *Performance video, 4 min:* My body greased with sticky lard, then covered with birdseed, I lie on my studio floor; pigeons fly in my window and eat the birdseed off my body.
- Jackhammer Meditation** *Performance video, 5 min:* I sit meditating within street construction several feet from a worker a cutting hole with jackhammer. Following a 10-day silent meditation retreat, I did jackhammer meditations in Chinatown streets, which were being torn up for development, over the period of a month.
- Rush Meditation** *Performance video, 4 min:* I sit in meditation posture on the sidewalk by South Station during the late afternoon worker-pedestrian rush.
- 2002** **Timeline: What Is Happening?** *Public participatory timeline installation:* 50-foot timeline comprised of cards hung on wire lines itemizing events from biblical times to 9/10/2001, theme of energy, with study desk and blank event cards, so public could add their own events; Scollay Square Gallery, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA
- Metatation: A Structured Conversation** A recorded discussion circle on one's direct personal experience of social upheaval following the 911 attack upon the trade center towers; **America is not America** *Slideshow, 5 min:* 150 still images documenting the pervasive display of American flags in the aftermath of 911 (Sept-Oct, 2001) set to Burt Bacharach's *Valley of the Dolls* theme song, Oni, Boston, MA
- 2001** **What Else Can We Do?** *Solo installation:* Scollay Square Gallery, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA

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- 2001** **Don't Be Fooled By The Dress** *Video, 120 min, photographs*: Documentary and still images of the dadaist public provocations of the Church of Euthanasia, led by cross-dressing Reverend Chris Korda (covering the years 1995-2000), part of Korda's installation at Transexual Express, The Barcelona Triennial, Barcelona, Madrid
- 2000 - 2001** **What is Media?** *Public project of one full year without media, installation and event*: A strict, year-long media blackout: I eliminated all news, email/ internet, newspapers, magazines, television, movies, videos, radio, books published after 1990, and recorded music--except involuntary exposure in public places. I maintained a public diary and installation at *Local Idea Council's* mini-museum; In January, 2001, I hosted a public debriefing event in which people informed me of the year 2000's significant events. Local Idea Council, Allston, MA
- 1997-1998** **Billboard modifications** *(photodocumentation)* **Steal This Billboard**, Documentation of numerous billboard modifications made from 1991-1999, The Billboard Liberation Front and Cicado Corps, CBGBs, NYC
- 1995-1996** **The Exploded Manifesto** *Public project, graphic art, texts, website*: Concerning the trial and life imprisonment of Ted Kaczynski; website gathered writings by many others and was linked to the foremost news website reporting on the trial, *The Sacramento Bee*; also recieved NY Times, NPR coverage and other press.
- 1993-1995** **Unapack Campaign** *Public project, graphic art/silkscreen posters, billboards, website, video, event*: Based upon the anti-technology, pro-collapse manifesto of F.C. published by the New York Times, which was followed by the capture of its author, Ted Kaczynski, a math genius and academic who left society to lived primitively in a Thoreau-like cabin in the Oregon wilderness for 25 years; the project and graphics were covered by national and internation press, including New York Times, Time Magazine, CNN, local TV and numerous others.
- 1994** **You're Soaking In It!** *Public project, silkscreen/graphic art, first amendment lawsuit*: Concerning the state's installation of advertising televisions within the Boston subway system; organized, researched and wrote legal brief for class action lawsuit, series of 20 silkscreened graphic/text images, T-shirts and pamphlets; many news/ magazine articles, including *Adbusters* and other national publications, cable access television and talk radio; project included in book by the *Center for the Study of Commercialism*; documented in an installation in *Public interventions*, The Institute For Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
- 1993** **Angels** *Installation*: Premonitions of the internet 'cloud' ~ a honeycomb of disembodied brains wired to electronic debris with soundtrack of Nancy Sinatra singing *Sugartown*, *Pinball Arcade*, Mills Gallery, Boston, MA
- Realpolitic** *Silkscreen wheatpaste posters*: On the death of Nixon; wheatpasted throughout Boston and Cambridge, MA (extemporaneously used by Oliver Stone in his movie, *Nixon*)
- Blessed Virgin Rubber Goddess** *Newspaper ads, subway posters, votive candles and installation*: Collaboration with Jay Critchley on his public project, *Day Without Art*, Institute for Contemporary Art and Howard Yezersky Gallery, Boston, MA [with Wendy Hamer as Buffalo Gals]
- Noise** *Public project with 2 billboards, street graphics, installation*: On the pervasive, hypnotic murmur of the advertising voice, *Memos for the Next Millenium*, Mills Gallery, Boston, MA [with Wendy Hamer as Buffalo Gals]
- 1992** **Hearts and Minds** *Multimedia installation*: Concerning the launching of the internet as the extension of mass media thralldom, *The Object of Performance*, Brickbottom Gallery, Somerville, MA [Buffalo Gals]
- The Billboard That Went Too Far** *2 Handpainted billboards, documentary video, 20 min*: Condoms/safe sex billboard collaboration with Dunya Alwan, Wendy Hamer, and four women from a prison post-release program, local news story when billboards were protested; *Day Without Art*, Institute For Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
- Peacekeeper Comforter** and **Typing Test Quilt** *sewn from Draper Labs missile defense documents, "tribal" outfit made from typewriter*: *The Travelling Scholars Exhibition*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- Audiotrash** *Installation with sound, S-8 film, slideshow*: Collection and compilation/sampling of strands of audio cassette tape harvested from roadsides, *Ways of Seeing*, Institute for Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
- 1991** **Losing Instants~The Somerville Scratch Project** *Billboard*: covered entirely with a pattern of 3,500 actual losing lottery scratch tickets gathered from streets of Somerville; research on inequities of lottery fund distribution led to news articles and an op-eds by the mayor; Somerville, MA [with Wendy Hamer as Buffalo Gals]
- Safer Sex** *Subway silkscreen poster campaign, video*: Explicit, detailed instructions on how to protect yourself from the AIDs virus, following the subway system's refusal to sell advertising space to the AIDS action committee; 100 were guerilla-installed in subway cars on International AIDS day [Buffalo Gals project]
- Haircare** *Sculpture*: "A radiant cross-section of consumer choice!" 330 different hair care product samples were collected door-to-door in Boston and Cambridge, *Charlie's Angels*, Speedway Gallery, Boston, MA

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BASRA/STORROW *Handpainted billboard*: subject: the Gulf War carpet bombing of surrendering Iraqi troops on the Basra highway, *Boston Summer Artists Festival*, Boston, MA [with Wendy Hamer as Buffalo Gals]

AWARDS, GRANTS, EDUCATION

- 2004** The Tanne Foundation
- 2001-3** Boston Arts Council annual grants (to ONI artspace)
- 2002-4** LEF Foundation annual grants (to ONI artspace)
- 1995** New England Foundation for the Arts New Forms Grant
- 1993** Boston Coalition for Freedom of Expression Heroes List
School of the Museum of Fine Arts Alumni Travelling Scholarship
Diploma in Studio Art, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
BA, English and American Literature, Brown University, Providence, RI